that he hails from that State. It does mean, however, that but for Ohio influence at the White House, Mr. GEORGE H. FORSTER would not have been nominated for United States District Attorney. The BURRMAN hand was not visible to the naked eye: the Sherman hand, nevertheless,

pulled the wires. The nomination is very hateful to Mr. CONKLING, and if there is the least prospect success in defeating the nomination he will leave nothing undone in the Senate to compass that end.

The nomination of Mr. Forster is not in itself a very great event. Still it suggests ar-reaching queries. Was GARFIELD as well as SHERMAN instrumental in bringing

Probably Mr. HAYES believed so. He is envious to please the incoming Administration, and thus secure favors under it for his If GARFIELD did intimate a preference for

PORSTER IT means war on CONKLING by the new Administration from the start. The Republican party is not exactly a

model happy family, after all. A Contributor Corrected.

We print a letter from Mr. FRANK WILKEson of Kansas, and with some of its views we most emphatically do not agree.

In regard to what is known as the Arid Belt, the longitudinal strip of territory crossing and including the western part of Kansas, there is much conflicting testimony. The justice of the term Arid, as implying enfitness for agriculture, is stoutly denied by many farmers who have settled near the one hundredth meridian and west of that ine, as well as by all who are directly or indirectly interested in filling up these lands with an agricultural population. On the other hand, the stock raisers, who are sure to be driven off good grazing lands if the western counties of Kansas are occupied for farming, assert that the soil is sterile, She climate hostile, and the territory good for naught except the breeding of cattle.

The strongly conflicting interests of the stock raisers, now in possession of the Arid Belt, and of the agricultural settlers, who are gradually encroaching on the grazing lands, explain the contradictory statements about the worth of the soil. The two industries cannot exist together in Western Kansas. The farmers must keep out or the cattie men must go.

It is natural that our esteemed contributor, looking at the question with a grazier's eyes and having at heart the interests of that vast and important industry, should Sorcibly present whatever arguments there may be for the repeal of the Homestead laws. These laws constitute the chief agency now operating to the detriment of the stock gaisers in Kansas and elsewhere.

All that Mr. WILKESON has to offer in the way of facts and legitimate argument showthe effect of the Homestead laws on the cattle raising industry, is sure to be valuable and interesting. The graziers ought to be otected to the utmost degree consistent with the rights of other citizens.

The prejudice against foreign immigration which Mr. WILKESON acknowledges in offensive language seems to us unworthy of a man of sense such as he. His notions on this subject are not only un-American; they are also long out of date. This nation has passed far beyond the period of its jealousy of newcomers is a factor in events. We cannot afford to relapse into Know-Nothingism. The talk about crowding native-born Americans out of their patrimony by opening the public lands on equal terms to citizens and to those desiring to become citizens, is something to be ashamed of. Any attempt in 1881 to discredit an element in our population which has done so much toward the development of the West and the prosperity of the East by calling them "poverty-stricken peasants of Europe," "penniless tramps," "foreign "foreign paupers," "povertyetricken patricians who inhabit Irish bogs, and so forth, is in our opinion absurd, and

enworthy of an intelligent American. There has been unwise and reckless squan-Sering of the public lands by the Government. But the squandering has been in the shape of grants and subsidies to great corporations of purely native origin; not in the allotment of small homesteads to industrious and thrifty men, who come over the san to America as our fathers, grandfathers, great-grandfathers, or great-greatgrandfathers came.

The Way to Get Rid of It.

One of the fashionable pastimes this winder is to get vaccinated. Young women are forming parties like theatre parties for the purpose of being vaccinated in company, and physicians with vaccine quills are in great demand. There is enough small-pox about to make the fashion exceptionally sensible, and the vaccinating corps of the Health Department are extending it among those who are too poor to pay for this pro-

section against the odious disease. Last week eighteen cases of small-pox were reported in the city, and during the present week they have been of daily occurrence. Brooklyn has had more than a score of cases since the year opened. The disease has also become much more prevalent than usual at Chicago, and it has broken out in the penitentlary at Fort Madison, lowa. Last autumn small-pox appeared ng some of the operatives in the mills in the vicinity of West Troy in this State. who caught the disease at an evening party; but vaccination and the seclusion of those afflicted prevented its progress, and it was soon driven out of the vicinity Sufficient opportunity for contagion, however, has existed to bring the disease hither, and there is now reason enough for

using every precaution against it. There are, of course, opponents of vaccimation, as there are of every other good thing. An anti-vaccination society has aiready published in THE SUN its protest against the efforts of the Health Departent to vaccinate the people generally. But the objections to the practice are not sustained by practical experience, while of its benefits we have abundant proof. If we had an equally efficacious means of protecting children sgainst diphtheria, for instance, the average of life here would be higher and

the number of mourners fewer. But these outeries against vaccination fortunately produce little effect this winter.

large portion of our foreign population, particularly the Germans, who formerly dreaded evil consequences from the visits of the public vaccinators, have been chiefly overcome, and we may safely assume that we shall not now experience another great visitation of small-pox comparable with those which afflicted New York six, seven, and nine years ago.

In 1872, for instance, nearly one thousand of the thirty-two thousand deaths which occurred were from small-pox. In 1874 an epidemic of the loathsome disease broke out among the German population, and in 1874 and 1875 the great number of 4,648 cases were reported. Over thirty per cent. of them were among the Germans, though they constituted less than one-sixth of the inhabitants. The epidemic spread because especially had a strong prejudice.

It was then that a permanent vaccinating corps was established, and systematic gratuitous vaccination was introduced. As the result. New York has been kept comparatively free from the disease since 1876. For two or three years it was almost unknown here. And the same means of prevention, accompanied by efficient measures for sequestrating cases which do appear, will soon again drive it out of the city.

Russia's Predicament.

Although the lately telegraphed report that the league of the three Emperors has been revived called forth an official denial from Vienna, it was admitted that propositions to that end had been made by Russia. It is easy to divine the motives that would prompt the Northern Empire to desire the renewal of a compact which was regarded as a guarantee of the peace of Europe. The reigning Czar is far from sharing the antipathy of his subjects to the Germans, and would not, without great reluctance, see himself drawn into collision with his relative, Kaiser WILLIAM. Hunted as he has been for years by implacable enemies, his dominant wish is to be suffered to pass in tranquillity the remnant of his days. Aside, however, from the personal inclinations of the sovereign, there are fiscal and economical reasons of great weight which impose on Russian statesmen at this time a thrifty and pacific policy.

When, a few months ago, the new Finance Minister took office, he undertook with zeal and vigor the almost hopeless task of establishing an equilibrium between income and expenses; of reconstructing the whole fiscal system, and uprooting the abuses with which this, like every other part of the Czar's Government, is infected. He made, we are told, in a full session of the imperial council, such an exposure of ugly facts as has seldom been witnessed in that body, and which extorted for the moment from his auditors an approval of his plans. He punctured the sham by which the last budget had been made to show a surplus, pointing out that irregular allowances, which depend in theory on the caprice of the Czar, and which amount in the aggregate to vast sums, never figure in the official estimates. He went on to prove that, as a first step toward financial reorganization and the prevention of a wide-reaching commercial catastrophe, it was indispensable to reimburse the Russian Imperial Bank for ad vances made to the Government, and which exceed, by the way, 400,000,000 roubles. The Minister did not propose to provide for that indebtment by augmenting direct taxes. for the people could not bear the slightest increase of their burdens. The sole means of paying the bank was to be sought, therefore, in retrenchment. Accordingly, the military budget was to be reduced, the civil list to be pared down, and, above all, measures were to be taken, by the detection and punishment of peculation, to stop the enormous leakage which has always intervened in Russia between

the taxpayer and the treasury. There is little doubt that the Czar in his retirement to Livadia would consent to a curtailment of his personal disbursements, and it is plain that a renewal of the former burg Emperors would permit of a material reduction in the outlay for military objects. These sources of outgo, however, are insignificant compared with the portentous loss of revenue incurred through official corruption and embezzlement. But there is no ground to hope that this leakage can be arrested by any measures short of a political revolution which should result in the wholesale ejectment of the Russian bureaucracy from their functions. We may expect to see Finance Minister ABAZA wrecked on the same obstacle which even Loris Melikopp. although invested with a virtual dictatorship, has found insurmountable. When an autocratic government has reached the state of decrepitude in which Russia now is, and in which France was during the last days of the old regime, not even such physicians as Tourgot and Neckar can cure it, be cause it will not take their remedies. No doubt the Finance Minister could re-

pay the bank its advances, and perhaps es-

tablish a transient equilibrium in the Russian budget, if he could have recourse to the usual expedient of autocratic governments, namely, increased taxation. But it happens that the difficulties of the fiscal situation are complicated with a widespread famine in the agricultural regions, and that the people, far from being able to bear a heavier load, are themselves entailing a new drain upon the treasury. The calamitous effects resulting from the falling off in last year's crops have for some time been constantly growing in extent and gravity, and now demand the most strenuous exertions on the part of the Government, if the people of large districts are to be saved from death by nunger. The destitution has caused a frightful mortality in the provinces of Saratoff and Samara, and even the German colonists on the Volga, who are among the most thrifty and well-to-do farmers in the empire, are suffering from famine. So far, the attempts of the Russian Government to cope with the disaster have proved entirely inadequate. The edict r instance, prohibiting the export of ryell not result in cheapening that grain, for it turned out that very little had previously been sent out many, having been cut off by BISMARCK's new tariff, under which native rye can be sold for less than the imported Russian article. The futility of the restriction upon exports being soon demonstrated, the Government resorted to direct assistance in extreme cases, appropriating a million of zoubles to Samara and Saratoff. Even had from the number of her suitors. Before dothe whole of this sum passed unpilfered through the hands of Russian bureaucrats to the intended beneficiaries -- an talk about his "estate" and his "birth and incredible supposition-it would have proved grotesquely insufficient to remedy or even palliate the almost universal want o' food in the districts specified. The proof. however, that the Czar's Government, which | more important that he himself should be squanders hundreds of millions on the court and army, could be shamed into the semblance of compassion for a starving popula-

tion, called forth loud elamors for assistance

of the peasantry for bread, which is becoming every day more vehement and bitter, cannot be disregarded by the Czar's counsellors if they would save the dynasty. Heretofore the loyalty of the moujik has been the last stronghold of the Romanoffs, the one impregnable barrier against the Nihilist propaganda; but we doubt if it is proof against starvation.

We scarcely need point out the bearing of the erop failure on those indirect taxes which hitherto have helped to fill the Russian treasury. A great shrinkage of imports was inevitable, because the people had no surplus grain with which to make purchases, and the attempt to obviate the diminution of income from this source by augmenting custom house dues was certain to miscarry. The sum of it is that Russia is so large a number of people were in need of | in an extremely grave predicament, and vaccination, against which the Germans | that its rulers are at their wits' end to pay their debts, collect their dwindling revenues, and meet the urgent necessities of the people. We may assume, therefore, that so long as the present Czar lives, these facts will insure abstention from war and a determined effort to enforce economy. It does not follow that ALEXANDER'S death might not be succeeded by an abrupt change of policy, and a reckless expenditure for warlike aggression, for just such an act of madness was committed by France only a few years before the downfall of the ancien regime. But in the one case, as in the other, the imposition of fresh sacrifices on a bankrupt and starving nation would prove in all likelihood the beginning of the end.

Shall He Ask Her to Marry Him? Whether it is worth a man's while to ask woman of whom he is enamored to marry him, is really a question he ought to be able to settle for himself. If he is talking of buying a horse, the advice of a disinterested friend who is a good judge of horseflesh may prove valuable to him in selecting a sound animal. But when it comes to selecting a wife, the case is very different. The advice of all his friends may prove quite uscless to him.

The horse he proposes to buy is not a party to the bargain. It is unable to express its opinion of him, and it cannot indicate whether it prefers him or another man for a purchaser. The feelings of the horse are not consulted in the matter. But what are the feelings toward him of the woman he would marry, it is his business to learn before he asks her to be his wife. It is her judgment he must consult, not other people's; for they may express the soundest of opinions, and yet she will throw them all away as worthless and impertment.

A man courts a woman to little purpose if he does not get indications of her feelings toward him before she has made explicit confession of them in answer to the momentous question. But there are men who cannot muster up courage to meet their fate because they are not sure what it is going to be. They are afraid of a possible rejection. Such fellows, if they are married at all, are apt to be married to women who take the business of courting off their hands, and settle for them the question they are too timid themselves to decide.

One of these doubtful, timorous swains writes in this wise to THE SUN for advice: "Sin For several weeks I have known Jocasta, she is a gentlewoman of the most delightful presence, handsome, witty, and accomplished. She plays well upon the plane, sings with some e egance, and speaks French with a great degree of fluency. I have treated her to the sights of the town; to the play several times, to the opera once, to ten and the fiddles at Mr. DELEONICO'S restaurant. But, notwithstanding, she is still cold and repulses all my

modest advances.

"For some time past I have entertained the idea of asking her to be my wife. I am a gentleman possessed of a good estate, and I would gladly offer it to Jocasta did she but give me a little encouragement; but knowing be to be a beauty of the most approved sort, one who desire horses, chariots, and a large Income, I have hesitated rather than be rebuffed in my adventure. There are a great number of gentlemen who are possessed of a larger ome and a better estate than I, and, knowing Jocasta to be of an ambitious mind. I have hesitated to propos the momentous question to her; and now, sir, being a gen-tleman of good birth and condition, and a hand-some es-tate, I ask you to give me your advice as to whether it is

worth my while to ask this young lady to be the wife of your most framble, obedient servant. Cassino.

"P. S.—Jocarta is one of the most beautiful of her ming sex. Her complexion is of a dazzling white except where the reses of her checks contradict the prevailing pallor of her skin. Hereyes are like sloes, and her hair is of the color of the raven's wing. Her face is a pure and perfect oval, and for her form-but I will not

undertake to describe it." From the style of our correspondent's letter we judge him to be a man of affectations, and very silly affectations, which are not likely to command the respect of Jocasta, if she is a sensible woman, worth the winning as a wife. An affected man is apt to make himself ridiculous in the eyes of a maiden, and so to spoil all his chances of gaining her affectionate regard.

In the first place, there is no justification for talking of gentlewomen in this country. The term is one which the silly purists of the Ecening Post may use, but it is a spobbish importation belonging to an aristocratic society not natural to us.

What does our correspondent and what does the Evening Post mean by a gentlewoman? In England it has a very definite meaning, where a gentlewoman is a woman born of the gentry or married into a family of the gentry, so called; and it is applied to none other. It is decidedly more restricted in its signification than the term gentleman, except when that is used in legal documents. Gentleman has become, in this country certainly, a general term, and every man who wears good clothes is prima facle a gentleman. Whether a man has the qualities which distinguish the ideal gentleman is another question, and only those who know him intimately are capable of deciding it. And the general feminine term which corresponds to gentleman is lady with us. It means little or nothing definite. like the masculine term. It can be used very indiscriminately and no one is deceived.

Gentlewoman, however, has a narrower signification, and it does not belong in a republican democracy. Neither, for that matter, should the terms gentleman and lady be used here as freely as they are now Plain man and woman are better, and if the individuals to whom they are applied have distinguishing qualities they can be indicated. If people do not like the term lady, they do not better things at all by talking of a gentlewoman. They only resort to an of the country, the principal consumer, Ger- affectation, and introduce a term foreign to our society.

If this beautiful and accomplished young inventory of the possessions of her swains in order to decide which of them she shall take, and with a view to getting the richest. we advise our correspondent to withdraw ing so, however, he will consult the dictates of good taste and good sense by omitting to condition," either to her or to anybody else. We hope for his sake that his progenitors were honest people, and that they laid something by for his benefit; but it is far honest, and capable of supporting a wife, The American stock came almost entirely from the yeomanry and the poorer people of Europe, and such terms as our correspondent | LLCYD, Presbyter an will consider 100 uses do not apply to their descendants;

sents her to be, she wants a rich husband only; but we hope she isn't a mercenary snob, one of the most odious of creatures, whether masculine or feminine. He may misunderstand her character, however, and she may not take the business view of matrimony he supposes. By asking her squarely whether she will marry him, he

will find out how that is. If she should come to us for advice as to her answer, we are doubtful whether we should not advise her to say No. She might fled our correspondent's talk about gentlewomen, estate, birth, and condition a great bore in married life.

The Cooks' Ball and Exhibition.

Next Tuesday evening the annual ball of the French cooks will take place at the Academy of Music. These cooks are organized into a benevolent society, and this ball, which will be the fifteenth given by them, is for the benefit of the widows' and orphans

fund of that organization. But though balls may be given for philanthropic purposes, they must appeal to something besides people's charitable impulses to draw together great and brilliant throngs. And this cooks' ball does offer extraordinary attractions. The Charity Ball may be fashionable and elegant. The late ball of the Cerele de l'Harmonie was full of exhilaration, and provocative of gayety of a carnival sort. The military balls offered the young men of the National Guard a chance to sport their uniforms before the fair sex. But the cooks' ball has a feature peculiar to it, and one of surpassing interest.

There are in the Société Culinaire Philanthropique eighty members, besides sixteen honorary members. The most famous of the French cooks of New York, some of them gastronomic artists with a European as well as an American reputation, are enrolled in this membership. For the purposes of their annual ball these masters of cookery enter into a friendly competition to produce the most perfect gastronomic and æsthetle effects which their noble art is capable of

conceiving. The supper at the French cocks' ball is, therefore, its grand and unique feature. The bill of fare for next Tuesday evening comprises, for instance, about ninety different dishes, many of which are of the most elaborate and highly ornamented character. while each of them is the masterpiece of its author. On the tables in Irving Hall, which will be connected with the Academy of Music for the convenience of the bail, will be displayed the most brilliant achievements of which metropolitan cookery is capable. Each artist prepares his dish knowing that it will come under the criticism of experts in practical gastronomy, and is accordingly stimulated to do his best.

Hence the cooks' ball does more than provide amusement for those who attend it and a rare repast for their discussion. It also affords an opportunity for the great annual cookery exhibition of the city. What advances have been made in the gastronomic art during the year may there be seen. The inventive capacity of our artistic cooks there has a chance to display itself.

In Irving Hall on Tuesday night will be held the grand cookery tournament, to borrow a term from the knights of old. What the address and prowess of our cooks can accomplish will there appear, and it will be not only a sight at which a man with an appreciative eye can gaze with sesthetic delight, but also a feast of which he can partake with material satisfaction, no matter how vigorous his appetite or how exacting his taste in gastronomy. We hope the cooks' society will largely increase the fund for their widows and orphans by the proceeds of their ball.

Advice to Lovers.

The inexperience of a student at Stuttgart has been the cause of a tragedy most painful and unnecessary. The young man fell in love with a very pretty girl, and his affection being duly reciprocated, he wrote re pentedly to her parents for their consent to a marriage. Receiving no answer, he got out of patience and poisoned himself. The next day came a letter from the parents with their consent. The young woman was so aggravated by her lover's lack of judgment that she also consumed poison, and expired at his funeral.

The first mistake made by this young man was writing to the parents. A personal interview with the father was what he should have sought, even though it was likely to be at the expense of a refusal. In the average courtship, the needy lover and the male parent are natural enemies. The one with whom the young woman finally sides is the one that will win; and in the end her support is likely to go to the man who shows the most persistent pluck. When a suitor does not tackle the old man face to face, but writes letters instead, it implies a lack of confidence in the justice of his cause. If he has the courage of his convictions, and entire trust in the sincerity of his sweetheart's attachment, he should regard the preliminary veto of her relative as merely a mark of his affectionate regard for his daughter's welfare; a disagreeable formality which it is well to get through with as soon as possible. Then the lover has only to go to work and provide himself with the means of independent support; when, if the young woman is of age, and they remain of the same mind, they can go and get married.

But for any man to allow himself to b lieve that his chance of happiness rests upon the reply of a parent, who may be imbued with prejudice, to a letter that may be full of nonsense, is not wise. Letters are but written characters which may express or may disguise, the writer's thought, But facts are much more substantial, and may be trusted to stand wear and tear.

If the suitor has neither the courage his convictions nor confidence in the data sel, he is certainly in a bad way, and perhaps would do well to emigrate, and try to grow up with some young country. Poison is not likely to make him feel better. Indeed, so far as is known it benefits no one but the undertakers.

No New Charter.

This city has had charters enough. In deed, it has had too many. No more charters for the city of New York are wanted. It is the largest city on the continent now, woman, Jocasta, is engaged in making an | and has the biggest sister. Why should it want a new charter?

As for granting new charters for the nurpose of having elections, and putting other en into office, we are utterly opposed to it. Let well enough alone. Coopen had nearly ruined himself before he had been in office six months; let us see how GRACE will go through at least the first half of a year. No new charter at present.

To-day the Rev. Mr. PECK, Baptist, will either recommend or discourage "Violence of Christian Effort;" the Rev. Mr. Sizouis, Evangelical Catholic, will utter " Cautions for Incautious Protestants:" the Rev. Mr. Tunny, Meth odist, will ask his hearers to contemn at the outside of "The Closed Door;" the live Mr. The Lonely Market Per Ber, Mr. Even the innorance and suspicion of that a want of the pecessaries of Rive. This ery If Judasta is the sort of woman he repress Mannothist, who was a larger than the Mannothist will be a surface that a want of the pecessaries of Rive. This ery If Judasta is the sort of woman he repress Mannothist, will be a surface that a want of the pecessaries of Rive. This ery If Judasta is the sort of woman he repressed to the Mannothist will be a surface to the first of the pecessaries of Rive.

Goes; the Rev. Mr. Day, Presbyterian, will describe "A Young Man's Home-Leaving;" the Rev. Mr. Adlan, Ethical Cultivator, will inquire Who is the True Gentleman?" the Rev. Mr. WILLIAMS, Methodist, will warn his flock against "The Bitter Fruits of Sin;" and a medium will undertake to give brilliant illuminated materializations under fraud-proof con-

Unless they alter their minds again, the members of the House Committee on Com merce will let the appropriation for the Mississippl in the River and Harbor bill stand at \$1,600,000. From present appearances the bill, unless sharply pruned in the House or Senate will take out of the Treasury nearly \$10,000,000. Unluckily, the same motives and influences controlling the committee are potent in the House and in the Senate. It is predicted that an attempt will be made to limit debate on the bill to one hour!

A series of conjunctions of the moon with various planets will give unusual brilliancy to the evening sky this week. On Wednesday the rescent beauty will be near Venus; on Thurslay Jupiter will receive a call from her; early on Friday morning it will be old Saturn's turn and on Saturday distant Neptune will become yet more dim in the presence of our brillians

On Thursday there will be a severe test of the correctness of astronomical calculations. Le-VERRIER'S tables place Jupiter on that day in such a position that he must occult the star known as "73 Piscium," that is, hide the star by coming between it and the earth. As a mis take of a few seconds in the calculations would throw the star beyond the planet's disk, it is hardly expected that the occultation will take place. But astronomers will watch with grea interest to see how close the miss is, if mis there be.

Up to Dec. 31, the French Government had expelled, all told, 5,768 members of religious orders, including 2,464 Jesuits, 409 Francis cans. 406 Capucins. 294 Dominicans. 24 Oblates, 239 Benedictines, and 126 Redemptor ists. The 1.450 Trappists, though equally smit ten by the decree, had not as yet been turned out of doors.

If Mayor GRACE thinks he can give this city clean streets, isn't it the part of common sense to let Mayor Grace try?

WHAT IS GOING ON IN EUROPE.

Our Street Cleaning Department has the satisfaction of knowing that the recent snow storm in London left the streets of that city in pretty much the same condition as our own There the duty of keeping the roadways free from dust and mud in summer, and from snow and ico in winter, is in the hands of the authorities of the various parishes in which the streets are situated. The result is that in the smaller districts in which the parish authorities are alive to their responsibilities, some attempt has been made to clear away the obstruction; but in the arger West End parishes, the area of which is as large as the whole of New York city, little has been done even toward cleaning the main thoroughfares. The recent fall of snow was a very eavy one; some accounts place it at as much as five feet deep. It is not to be wondered at that, in a city where the average fall of a few inches of snow throws them on their beam ends, this recent visitation has completely nonplussed the vestries. Of course such an opportunity for a good grumble would not be lost by the Britisher, and his heart is wrung by the police edict which forces him to keep the pavement in front of his own house free from snow and ice. He argues that he pays rates to have the roads kept free by contractors from dust and mud, and cannot understand why the same men cannot battle with the snow. Meanwhile the vestries are racking their rather obtuse brains for a means of overcoming the inconvenience, and an ingenious person writes to one of the London dailies, suggesting that a machine be constructed something after the model of an ordinary street watering cart, with jets of flame instead of jets of water. These jets are to be produced by burning some cheap mineral oil, and power ful reflectors are to be used to intensify their heat, which is to be directed upon the snow and ice until the streets resume their wonted appearance. Should such a scheme prove feasible, it would doubtlesss be of immense advantage to our petroleum districts. It would be as well, however, to have a goodly number of fire engines in the neighborhood of the fire carts, as in case of an explosion the last state of that city would be worse than the first. Mr. Gladstone's Government is not likely to

get rusty from want of practice in dealing with insurrections and conspiracies. At present it has three on its hands, namely, the Land League and the Irish obstructionists in the House of Commons-these may for all practical purposes be classed together-the Boer insurrection, and the conspiracy at Kolapore in India. The obstructionist movement was, of course, foreseen, and Cabinet councils have been held at which the measures to be taken to circumvent it were engerly discussed. The Government seems, however, to have found no solution for the difficulty, as the cable informs us. that recently a few Home Rulers, in the teeth of both Liberals and Conservatives, kept the House in session for a whole night and half the next lay. The only practical course which Mr. Gindstone has taken is to collect information from the fereign embassies as to how things are managed in other countries. From the reports sent in it appears that in all countries ruled by a representative form of governmentwith the exception of the lower branch of the Hungarian Diet-in one form or another the principle of the cloture is adopted. This means that either the President or a majority of the Assembly has the power to close a debate.

From these reports it is gathered that the iours for transacting the business of the chief European legislatures are as follows: The Ausrian Entenseath usually sits from 11 A. M. to 5 P. M.; the French Chamber from 2 to 6 P. M.; he German Reichstag assembles at 11 and adurns at 4; the Pullan Parliament occupies out five hours in the afternoon in getting brough its work. The English have for so ong considered the methods of their House of rinons to ba as near perfection as possible. has the bare lifea of Introducing any improvement borrowed from the legislative assemblies of foreign powers must give their self-conceit a rude shock. But the fact is evident that, in orfor to save themselves from the ridicule of civeducations, something must be done. The difficulty is that any course which may be adopted to suppress the Irish members may some time or other be used as a presedent for preventing a perfectly legitimate opposition from being heard. No doubt it will be urged that the effect has not as yet been used tyrannically in other countries, but that is no nesur-ance that it will not be so used in the future. At present the irish mambers are mosters of the situation, as, under the existing rules, they reenabled to obstruct on equally the procedure of the House. They would be equally able to letra tany measure introduced with a view to helr own suppression.

The latest conspirace with which Mr. Gladstone's Government has been threatened inder the domain of the Secretary of State for adia. A plot has been discovered to depose be Hainh of Kolapure, massacre the European residents, and sank the capital. Kolapore h nly 185 miles from Dombay, and is a remnant of the and Mahratta empire. The Mahrattas were subjugated by the British in 1829, but the usual policy of paramining the native royal house to assume nominal power over the sub-jects, under the direction of an English Resicent, was adopted. The citadel and military atposts were garrisoned by British forces at the native ruler's expense. The troops consist ed of native soldlers, with native officers, except he Colonel and a few inferior officers, who were English. Details of the plot have not yet come o hand. It is probable, however, that the uneasoning loyalty of the natives has been made more the the chief conspicition. Ham that, to in-ture soon to belt with a time produce over a tile

inducement to revolt, Bambhat promised his o-conspirators that they should loot the city after murdering the Europeans; either treat would have been enough to seduce the most apathetic native from his allegiance. To suc cessfully carry out this precious scheme it was necessary to win over the garrison, which was under the control of its native officers. As these latter were incorruptible, they were to be massacred first of all. But such a simple matter as this was not to be attempted without money, and Rambhat was poor. To procure the

necessary funds be had to take to highway rob bery. Some of his band were caught, and the whole plan was discovered. The vacancy in the office of Inspector of Fish eries in England, caused by the death of Mr. Frank Buckland, has been filled by the appointment of Prof. Huxley. The duties of the position are not onerous, the salary is a good one, and the position seems to be a sort of re ward for eminent services rendered to natural history. Men who give themselves up to the advancement of science can rarely earn more than a modest living. Prof. Agassiz once said that he was a scientific man, and had no time to waste in making money. It seems, therefore nothing but right that a government should have some means at its disposal to place men of such value to the commonwealth out of the reach of anxiety about obtaining bread and cheese for themselves and their families. Prof. Huxley is, moreover, a man whose researches emi

nently fit him for his present position. He began life in the medical service of the Roya Navy, and his observations during a four years' cruise in the Southern Pacific procured him an election as Feilow of the Royal Society on his return. The estimation in which he is held in scientific circles may be gauged by the popuarity of his works in foreign countries. Dean Stanley, in a sermon recently preached in Westminster Abbey, took occasion to refer to the profession of journalism, which he described as "a mighty engine which is wielded as it never before has been wielded in this or in any other country." Of the vileness, folly, and

vice which a very small section of English journals foster he spoke in terms of the severes censure. He took occasion to rebuke "the bitterness with which some of the so-called relious journals of the day address themselves to inflame, pervert, and exaggerate every topic of personal and party rancor." He expressed his belief that, "in the reasonableness, in the purity, and in the moderation of the great organs of public opinion in England, there is, all shortcomings notwithstanding, a ground of hope for the future of the English people that generations will be required to shake." parisons are proverbially odious, and the Dean entered upon a field open to discussion when be ompared the English papers" with those whose language and utterances are so unworthy of the Great Republic of the West." It is pleasant to find a leading London journal taking up the eudgels in our behalf, and delaring careful study of the history of American journalism can scarcely fail to induce the convic tion that it has exhibited within late years constant and stendy tendency improvement in the direction of 'the reasonableness, the purity, and the moderation of its utterances. Those who find matter for astonishment and regret in what may appear to be the ribaldry, the scurrility, and the gross ness of the attacks on public and private char acter. In certain journals published in the United States, would do well to turn to the files of American newspapers published forty, thirty or even twenty years ago." It is also satisfacory to learn that "the principal shortcoming of the American press is its independent and seemingly incurable irreverence—that irrev-erence which seems to be indeed the mainspring of American humor, both in journalism and literature." To account for this the fol lowing suggestion is made: "Perhaps the coun trymen of the grim Puritans who passed th Blue Laws of Connecticut, and printed in the margin to each sour enactment a justification in the shape of a text from Scripture, may have been made from generation to generation little too commonly familiar with a vocabulary and history which Englishmen shrink from turning into ridicule. Over familiarity, we all know, breeds contempt." It is not generally known in this country that

Dean Stanley is an old and experienced jour nalist. Together with Matthew Arnold and Fitzjames Stephons, he was one of the leading editorial writers on the Pall Mall Gazette for several years, beginning with the starting of that paper. The literary tendency of the Dean of Westminster was always of a radical nature. who knew him and his influence upon Frederick Greenwood, the original editor of the Pall Mall Gazette, that the Dean would have made he has in theology had he pursued the former avocation.

It is curious to mark the approbation expressed by the most influential French journals of the course taken by Mr. Bradlaugh in refusing to fight a duel with M. Laisant. With such a unanimity of public opinion against the duello as a means of settling quarrels, it is extraordinary that the practice is still so much in vogue among Frenchmen, who must fight at times it they would avoid the imputation of cowardice It is probable that the ladies are responsible for this state of affairs, as their ridicule of a man who refuses to "go out" is the hardest to bear. Duelling may be an evil, but it is not so bad as the assessination plan of settling differences with which parts of America are cursed. An old lion named Wallace killed his keeper

at Birmingham, England, the other day. man had gone into the cage to clean it out, having first driven its usual occupants into another compartment, the door of which was not se curely fastened. Wallace seized both the onportunity and the keeper, and was proceeding make a meal of the latter when a professiona lion tamer rushed to the rescue. He had in his hand a pistol loaded with blank cartridge, which he fired in the lion's face, but the king of beasts rather enjoyed the smell of powder. The Hon tamer then produced a heavy whip, with which he belabored Wallace until he forced him to let go his prey.

It is rumored in Paris that a process has been discovered by which it will be possible to obtain photographs producing the colors of nature. The announcement is marred by the qualifica tion that the discovery is not quite completed, but that entire success will most probably have been attained before the end of a twelvementh.

Maurel, the pupil and successor of Faure, the great French baritone, has been engaged at the Paris Opera for three years. His salary is to be \$2,000 a month during the first year, \$2,200 the second, and \$2,400 the third. His contract also stipulates for a three months' holiday each year. Mme. Edmond Adam has undertaken to finish the novel which George Sand was at work on when she died. It will appear in the Neuvelle Recue, in which is also to be published the correspondence between George Sand and the Contesse d'Azoult, better known under the pseudonym of Daniel Stern.

While the attention of Europe has been engaged by the Dulcigno farce and by the petty quarrel about a few square miles on the Greek-Puricish frontier, and while the English Gov-ernment has had all their time occupied with the Irish troubles and the South African war against the Dutch boers, Russia has quietly aken possession of a country in Central Asia three times as large as the United Kingdom of Great Britain. After the full of Geok-Tope, captured by Gen, Skobeleff on the 24th inst., the all of Merv is only a question of time. True, the Russian Government has emphatically assured the European powers that after subduing the Turcomean, it will withdraw its troope to the Caspian; but the value of Russian assurances in regard to central Asia are too well known. The troops of the Car are as fatally pushed forward in central Asia as the English were rushed forward in India in the days of the old East India Company.

N. L. T.

Machinery is Personal Property. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will you

atorm me through Tan Sun if your machinery with thich you print your paper is taxable as personal prop-rly? The case is this: The assessor wants to tax me for man there's I use in thest ess, tail value and over, and property. Am I hable? Vorte. Much mery is personal property, and, as such exation. The owner may however

-A local preacher prayed in meet Lord, keep us from living in the seventh chapter o nans, and help us into the eighth."

-At Talequah, which is in the Indian Territory, the Rapusts have a university, in which last year orty Cherokees and Choctaws received education. —Outside of Baltimore there is not one

self-sustaining Esptist church in all the State of Mary-land. This statement is made by a correspondent of the Examiner and Chronicle. -A little Sunday school girl whose father is a tailor said to her teacher: "I can always tell when father makes a missit, for when he comes home he gives

its to mother and me." -The Interior complains that some of the ministers who send items of church news too frequently tive information regarding themselves, instead of that which is of public interest in regard to religious work.

-The efforts now on foot to induce the Rev. Emo: y J. Haines to resign the charge of the Wash-ington Avenue Baptist Church, Brooklyn, are said to be made by a very small minority of the congregation. His riends say that he will stay where he is

-A church in the interior of Pennsylvania wants money, and proposes to raise it by a fair. To stark the fair, the paster asks for denations. "Send cash," he mys, "but if not cash, then send us anything that we can turn into cash." Already poultry and provisions of various kinds are arriving for the aid of the cause.

-Among the Hindoos it was formerly thecase that the Brahmins were the only educated people. The law of caste cut off all the others and kept them in emparative ignorance. Most of the converts to Chrisianity came from the lower castes. The indications now are that caste is breaking down, and that all are to have an equal chance for enjoying the advantages of educaon. The missionaries regard this as an extremely hopeful sign. They now begin to look for converts from among the higher classes. While they regard one man's soul as quite as good as the soul of any other man, still they re-alize that if the educated Hindoos shall ever throw the weight of their influence in favor of Christianity, the gain to the cause of missions will be very great.

-A leading Scotch religious paper is very severe on the manner of conducting the religious ser-vices at the Protestant Episcopal General Convention heid in this city. These services were parcelled out in such a way as to give a small part to each clergyman. and to use as many clergymen as possible. The criticism is to the effect that "The celebration seems to have been a very curiously arranged ceremony, the service being minced into numerous portions in order to give as many Bishops as possible a share in it. Liturgical propriety is evidently not much studied by American Bishops when in convention." The Churchman says that this absurd division of the services is often carried to a-still greater excess, and that there is no way of multiplying the number of participants except by lining out the hymns after the old fashion, and giving each clergyman a line. The editor of the Churchman has seen as many an sixteen clergymen taking part in morning prayer, litany,

-The Free Church of Scotland is in some. thing like a free fight over its methods of praising the Lord. According to the custom which has long pre-vailed in most of the churches of Scotland, this Church has made use of paalms exclusively. The young people demand a change, both in the style and the volume of their preise material. The collection which they have been using for many years contains less than two hun-dred psains. They want a book of hymns and psains. containing in all about 370 metrical compositions. The battle over the adoption or rejection of this book rages servely. In connection with it the old sight about organs comes up. The venerable Dr. Begg is one of the most earnest in his opposition to musical instruments of all kinds, and exerts himself to the utmost to prevent what he calls the descerstion of the churches by organs and by compositions which are uninspired. Dr. Horatius ionar, who has a world-wide reputation as a hymn. writer, is one of the principal advocates of the introduc ion of the hymn book

-The dissatisfied party in the Church of England has accepted the invitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury to state what reforms are needed in the government and management of the Church. The statenentis a formidable one. It asks for the repeal of the Public Worship Regulation set, the disentent of Lord Penzance, and the declaration that all the acts done by him are void. It demands the abolition of Privy Council interference with the Church, and the removal from the House of Lords of supendiary Bishopa. The release of Mesers Dale and Enraght from prison has greatly encouraged the dissatisfied party. Although these centle-men are out on bail, there is no idea that they will ever be called up for trial. There was a petty mistake in a technicality in the indictment against them. To make this good the whole business of the proceedings will have to be taken up again from the becausing. In the present state of public opinion, this would be simply impossible. The most interesting feature of the case as it now stands is that theeresting feature of include and in now tands is that Neeres Dale and Eurapht, who are rigidly con-scientious as to their forms of Worship, will probably net-conduct public service in any other way than that for which they were imprisoned. There is good reason to believe that they might now perform any ritualistic serrice they might fancy, without molestation. Lord Penance has had enough

-The Sunday school lesson for to-day is about "Simeon and the Child Jesus," and is written in Luke ii., 25-35. The venerable Simeon meets Joseph and Mary as they bring the infant Jesus into the Temple. and, taking the babe in his arms, gives him the benedicion of an old man in words which have become a part of the inspired record. The visit of the parents of Jesus to the Temple was to perform the customary ceremony of presenting an offering in gratitude to God for the birth of the child. In this case the offering consisted of turtle doves or pigeous, on account of the poverty of those who presented it. Simon was a venerable man, who was one who had long been looking for the fulfilment of he prophecies which had foretald the coming of the Messiah. In his delight at the fulfilment of these prophe-cies in the birth of the infant Saviour, he was ready to. depart from this life and be at peace and rest in the life. o come. We have in this lesson the blessedness of the ohl age of a man who has lived a godly life. In olden times the benediction of such a man was supposed to carry a special blessing with it. One of the lessons which may wisely be impressed upon the young in consection with this lesson is that people who live fast lives and wear themselves out when they ought to be in their prime waste themselves and cut off their happiness; while, on the other hand, those who by attention to health and good morals preserve their faculties until old go have the joy of the sunshine of declining years of

-In Boston there is a certain religious publishing establishment, which is recognized as a head-quarters for ministers seeking temporary preaching laces. It is besieged by a run of preachers who have a dash of the "carpet bagger" element in their ecclesias-tical and professional make up. Some of them are men of talent who are a little run down. Some are men who have wern themselves out in pastoral service, some are do-nothings, and some are very excellent brethren, who are werthy of steady employments but who somehow or other do not manage to be tavored with "calls" a supply for a Sunday is almost sure to find it here in, wa-rious grades of quality and at corresponding rates supply The more expensive ministers are not to be found in this way, but rather the low-priced ones. A few of these re-ceive as high a fee as twenty dollars on Sunday. Many are glad to go for ten, and there are some whose efforts an be secured for five dollars. These five-dollar brothren are not esteemed either the most eloquent or the most original. They generally have a faded manuscript or two with them. Sometimes they are given to what they call extemporaneous preaching, that is to say, they preach without manuscripts, but give their hearers a repetition of what they have preached over and over again so often that they have no need of a manuscript as an aid to memory. This Boston beatquarters supply is an informal thing which attends to sharp, and has grown up from the mutual accessition of characters and ministers. It regulates itself, costs nobody anything, and is worth a great deal to those who make use of it. Its operation is quiet, and low people except these who, are directly benefited by it know of its existence. -The "Brethren," whose organ is the

Progressic chelders, are much disturbed on the subject of the style of clothing suitable for a Christian to wear. They are divided into several sections as to their belief, thus section believes it right to wear only such garments as are generally recognized as "Donker." These are made at coarse staff, and are cut somewhat according to many all coarse stand, and a control section of the fashion of thisse worn by regular Quakers. Tet three are such differences between these and centile Quaker anits that the Quaker out would not be accepted by a strett Dunker as the proper thing. The advanced "Brethren" diseard the old fashions of their fathers and prefer to buy "store clothes" and to dress like other people. Between these two classes there are several va-ricties and grades, each holding with great firmness its peculiar views on dress. In the Progressia crausian a prominent writer, who opposes the righties of the very old-tashioned cothing, opposes with equal carnettiess the innovations of the theral young members who would dress in the provailing styles. This critic says. I can't say that I have any particular objection to any man's dressing as he pleases. If he prefers to get himself up a later style and can, without inconversancing himself, pay for it, it becomes nichody's business but his own. However, when he calls himself a Christian, that is, iske Christ, I wonder if Christ were here if he would be found with a broadcloth coat, a stovepipe hat, a case, eye-glasses, and a gold watch? Mark you, my fraternal dandy, I don't object to your outfit. I believe that a manlike the above can and will be saved too, and as to the merit of it, outside the religious aspects of the case, It have nothing to say one way or another. If his weak-ness ends in tailoring it is all tolerably well." In his real find fault with the cut of other people's clothes, he fo retaitiat when Christ was on carch. He were not each saments as were with its most of the problem of whom the first first is in repeated the grade of the problem of the control of